

place because of the sacrifices she and her family have made.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WAR ON TERRORISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSBORNE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the devastating attacks on New York and Washington on September 11, the United States has taken a range of swift and decisive actions to bring the terrorists responsible to justice and to ensure that sponsors of terrorism are uprooted. Our military has helped drive the Taliban from power in most of Afghanistan and has tightened the noose on Osama bin Laden and his compatriots. We have seized terrorist assets around the world, putting those who would help terrorists on notice that we will dry up those sources of support.

In our military, diplomatic and financial efforts, the United States has received unprecedented support from the international community. Many countries around the world have converted their sympathy into real acts of solidarity. Our battle against terrorism is a global fight. Success requires sustaining a broad coalition of diplomatic and military partners over the long term.

Recently, the State and Defense Departments provided me with a list of 29 countries plus the European Union who have contributed to our current counterterrorist efforts. While each country is helping in specific ways, they all are making a difference in our ability to thwart the global threat posed by terrorist groups like al Qaeda.

Our allies in Europe are among our most committed partners. NATO took the unprecedented step of invoking article 5 of its charter, considering the attacks on the United States as attacks on the alliance as a whole. The European Union has offered broad diplomatic support and nations throughout Europe, from France and Germany to Poland, have offered military and domestic counterterrorism units. Unique among these loyal European partners is Great Britain who has stood with us diplomatically and fought alongside us in Afghanistan. The depth of this special friendship is one for which we should be profoundly grateful.

Beyond our European partners, our allies in Asia—Korea, Japan, Australia and New Zealand—have all provided combat or support forces for this fight. Our relationships with Russia and with India have improved greatly because of our common struggle against terrorism and their continued efforts to support us.

Finally, I would like to note the remarkable actions of Muslim countries in this global struggle. So many are our friends and recognize that the war

against terrorism is not a war against Islam. Pakistan has been crucial to our efforts in Afghanistan and has demonstrated great courage in helping lead the struggle against radical terrorism. Our NATO partner, Turkey, has provided special operations troops and has helped bridge the gap between the West and other Muslim nations. States in the Gulf and throughout Central Asia have also chosen to stand with the global community, seizing terrorist assets, providing public support for our military efforts and granting critical overflight and basing rights.

As President Bush has said many times, this war will be a long and multifaceted one. To succeed, we will need the continued strength and commitment of the American people, but we will also need the ongoing support of our friends around the world. It is in the global interest to end terrorist activity and it will take global efforts to achieve this goal.

#### EXPRESSING THANKS TO JOAN BATES KORICH ON THE AN- NOUNCEMENT OF HER RETIRE- MENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we all receive numerous honors every year. But having someone named after you is truly a special honor. There is a young boy named Eric Royce Bates out in California. What makes it so special is that his grandmother is my chief of staff, Joan Bates Korich, who has announced her retirement. Joni has worked for me for 19 years, starting in the California State Senate in 1982. I came to Sacramento as a young State Senator at the age of 31. I knew what I believed and I knew what my goals were. What I did not know was how to go about accomplishing those goals.

That is where Joni came in. She helped me learn how to turn ideas into accomplishments. She taught me that friendships can transcend politics and that just because you may disagree with someone, that that does not make them your enemy. She is the ultimate professional who takes her work seriously but never loses her sense of humor.

Thanks to Joni's leadership, our office is known for civility and professionalism. Our constituents in California have benefited tremendously from the unique care and interest she has demonstrated over the years. She has also proven time and time again how much she cares about every member of our staff. To this day, interns and young staff members who worked with us in Sacramento many years ago still call Joni to ask for advice, or just to tell her how their family is doing.

I still do not know how I managed to convince her and her husband Kim to leave her children and grandchildren

and come with me to Washington when I was elected to Congress in 1992, but whatever I said, it was one of the best speeches I ever made.

In just over a month, Joni will return to her home in Sacramento and to her three children and eight grandchildren, including Eric Royce Bates. For Joni, there is nothing more important than family. I just consider myself fortunate to have been part of her extended family for the past 19 years. I will miss her very much as will every member of my staff.

Thank you, Joni, for all you did for me. You will be 3,000 miles away, but you will never be forgotten by me or by anyone who has had the good fortune to work with you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### MAJORITY LEADER ARMEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. TIAHRT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today Majority Leader DICK ARMEY announced that he would not run for reelection. I received this news with mixed emotions.

First, I am very happy for DICK ARMEY because he is moving to the next phase of his life where he will continue to pursue his dreams. This morning he fondly spoke of his wife Susan and how he was looking forward to spending more time at home with her. The gentleman from Texas spoke of her admiringly and spoke of the sacrifice that she has made, being a spouse of a Member of Congress. We all stood and applauded when Susan ArmeY was recognized. We stood because each of us knew what our spouses have endured—the long hours, the brutal campaigns, the time away from our families. We know what Susan has endured.

DICK and Susan ARMEY will get to spend more time together, and I am very happy for them. But also, Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the gentleman from Texas' announcement. I am saddened because I consider him a friend and I respect what he has accomplished, but I will miss him and I wonder who will fill the void. DICK ARMEY has fought for so many things that have made this a better place to live: Welfare reform that has improved the lives of more than 6 million Americans who are working today and pursuing their dreams. It was DICK ARMEY who fought so hard for Congress to balance the budget, and finally we see a surplus for the first time in a generation. It was DICK ARMEY who fought for a flatter, fairer tax system for Americans.